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Editorials:

More Trouble In Southeast Asia

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MAJ. GEN. NGUYEN Khanh is back in full command of South Viet Nam's shaky government (at least, he was yesterday afternoon), but there is nothing in the news from Saigon to indicate that either Khanh or the so-called caretaker government that functioned during Khanh's five-day "temporary retirement" has the support of the country.

The most recent crisis there points up the factionalism that has been undermining the war effort for many months. General Khanh himself recently said there were "five wars" waging inside of Viet Nam — wars that have pitted generals against generals, civilians against the military, Buddhists against Catholics, students and intellectuals against the government.

THE GOVERNMENTAL crisis really began with the struggle for power after the Diem regime was ousted last November and intensified after the January coup by General Khanh.

When the recent events in the Gulf of Tonkin diverted attention from the situation in Saigon, Khanh attempted to tighten his grip on the country by declaring an emergency, proclaiming a new constitution and promoting himself to the presidency.

But he was foolish enough to select a time that coincided with student and Buddhist demonstrations long planned for the anniversary of last year's pagoda raids and student protests. The Buddhist leaders, who in the last year have emerged as an important political force, used the opportunity to strike for a major role in the Vietnamese government.

Khanh said yesterday that he had won the support of these Buddhist leaders, who had threatened to renew their anti-government violence unless their demands were met. That remains to be seen.

MEANWHILE, the Johnson ad-

given consideration to a "egotiated settlement" in Viet Nam along lines set forth by Willard Matthias, a member of the Central Intelligence Agency's Board of National Estimates.

This report by Matthias had been classified by the U. S. government, but was released to the press when the administration learned that it had been "leaked" to at least one newspaper.

The State Department promptly denied that the Matthias report represented anything more than a personal opinion of the writer and the fact that it paralleled the policy recommended by President de Gaulle of France was viewed as an inconsequential coincidence.

SO THE CRISIS in Viet Nam continues, only to be overshadowed by an even more critical situation in Malaysia. In that troubled country, a state of emergency has been declared following an airborne attack by Indonesian soldiers in an area only 100 miles from the Malaysian capital.

To counter this "flagrant act of aggression," as it was termed by the Malaysian government, Britain and her Commonwealth allies have been urged to give increased military and economic aid to Malaysia.

This they have promised to do and at last report — surprisingly enough — no help has been sought from the United States. Neither has any been offered.

OUR SYMPATHIES in this latest situation may logically rest with the Malaysians, but the irony is that the Indonesians are using millions of dollars of military hardware with which we have been supplying them since 1960 under the foreign aid program.

Is it any wonder that many Americans believe that the more we try to help some of these countries, through the foreign aid program, the more enemies we make and the less good we accomplish?